

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6631–S6681

Measures Introduced: Forty-two bills and seven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2810–2851, and S. Res. 380–386. **Pages S6673–74**

Measures Passed:

Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act: Senate passed H.R. 5293, to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend and modify certain authorities and requirements relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs. **Page S6666**

Use of Capitol Grounds: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 41, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition. **Page S6666**

National Clean Energy Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 381, proclaiming the week of September 20 through September 24, 2021, to be “National Clean Energy Week”. **Page S6666**

Rail Safety Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 382, expressing support for the designation of the week of September 20 through September 26, 2021, as “Rail Safety Week” in the United States, and supporting the goals and ideals of Rail Safety Week to reduce rail-related accidents, fatalities, and injuries. **Pages S6666–67**

National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 383, designating the week beginning September 12, 2021, as “National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week”. **Pages S6666–67**

Community School Coordinators Appreciation Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 384, designating the week of September 20 through September 24, 2021, as “Community School Coordinators Appreciation Week”. **Pages S6666–67**

Telehealth Awareness Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 385, supporting the designation of the week of September 19 through September 25, 2021, as “Telehealth Awareness Week”. **Pages S6666–67**

Death of Parliamentarian Emeritus Bob Dove: Senate agreed to S. Res. 386, relative to the death of Robert Britton “Bob” Dove, Parliamentarian Emeritus of the United States Senate. **Page S6667**

Measures Considered:

Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 5305, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for providing emergency assistance. **Pages S6665–66**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, September 23, 2021, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, September 27, 2021. **Pages S6665–66**

Prior to the consideration of this measure, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6665**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, September 27, 2021, Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill; and that the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill ripen at 5:30 p.m. **Page S6681**

Donfried Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Karen Erika Donfried, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (European Affairs and Eurasian Affairs). **Pages S6655–63**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 65 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. EX. 380), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S6655–56**

Medina Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Monica P. Medina, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans

and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs
Pages S6663–64

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 57 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. EX. 381), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.
Pages S6663–64

Phee Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (African Affairs).

Page S6664

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 58 yeas to 25 nays (Vote No. EX. 382), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.
Page S6664

Robinson Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Todd D. Robinson, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs).

Pages S6664–65

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 54 yeas to 29 nays (Vote No. EX. 383), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.
Pages S6664–65

Lewis Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Jessica Lewis, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs).

Page S6665

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 62 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. EX. 384), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.
Page S6665

Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, that upon the use or yielding back of time on the nomination of Karen Erika Donfried; Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations of Monica P. Medina, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (African Affairs), Todd D. Robinson, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs), and Jessica Lewis, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs) at a time and in an order to be determined by the Majority Leader, following consultation with the Republican Leader; with 1 hour for debate equally divided prior to each vote, and the Republican debate be controlled by Senator Cruz.
Page S6661

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 68 yeas to 30 nays (Vote No. EX. 375), Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.
Pages S6631–34

By 85 yeas to 11 nays (Vote No. EX. 377), Sarah Bianchi, of Virginia, to be Deputy United States Trade Representative (Asia, Africa, Investment, Services, Textiles, and Industrial Competitiveness), with the rank of Ambassador.
Pages S6634–42

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 85 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. EX. 376), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.
Page S6634

By 72 yeas to 14 nays (Vote No. EX. 379), Daniel J. Kritenbrink, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs).

Pages S6643–55

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 77 yeas to 18 nays (Vote No. EX. 378), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.
Pages S6642–43

Jane Toshiko Nishida, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.
Page S6666

Executive Communications: **Page S6670**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S6670–72**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S6672**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6674–76**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S6676–81

Additional Statements: **Pages S6668–69**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S6681**

Record Votes: Ten record votes were taken today. (Total—384) **Pages S6634, S6642–43, S6655–56, S6663–65**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9 a.m. and adjourned, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Robert Britton “Bob” Dove, Parliamentarian Emeritus of the United States Senate, in accordance with S. Res. 386, at 9:47 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, September 27, 2021. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S6681.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Homer L. Wilkes, of Mississippi, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment.

NOMINATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of General Jacqueline D. Van Ovost, USAF, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Commander, United States Transportation Command, Department of Defense, after the nominee testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY STRATEGY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine national cybersecurity strategy, focusing on protection of Federal and critical infrastructure systems, after receiving testimony from J. Chris Inglis, National Cyber Director; Jen Easterly, Director, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security; and Christopher J. DeRusha, Federal Chief Information Security Officer, Office of Management and Budget.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1787, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to prevent the transfer of actions arising under the antitrust laws in which a State is a complainant;

S. 2502, to provide first-time, low-level, non-violent simple possession offenders an opportunity to expunge that conviction after successful completion of court-imposed probation; and

The nominations of Toby J. Heytens, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Patricia Tolliver Giles, and Michael S. Nachmanoff, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, Sarala Vidya Nagala, and Omar Antonio Williams, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, and Hampton Y. Dellinger, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Erek L. Barron, to be United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, Nicholas W. Brown, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Washington, Matthew M. Graves, to be United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, Clifford D. Johnson, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana, Zachary A. Myers, of Maryland, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, Trini E. Ross, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, and Vanessa Waldref, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Washington, all of the Department of Justice.

FRAUD, SCAMS, AND COVID-19

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine fraud, scams, and COVID-19, focusing on how older Americans have been targeted during the pandemic, after receiving testimony from Lois Greisman, Associate Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission; Odette Williamson, National Consumer Law Center, Boston, Massachusetts; Vee Daniel, Better Business Bureau Serving Upstate South Carolina, Greenville; and Kate Kleinert, Glenolden, Pennsylvania.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 14 public bills, H.R. 5344–5357; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 676–678 were introduced. **Pages H5133–34**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H5135**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2119, to amend the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act to make improvements, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–126); and

H.R. 3992, to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 to prohibit employers from limiting, segregating, or classifying applicants for employment, with amendments (H. Rept. 117–127). **Page H5133**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Neguse to act as Speaker pro tempore for today **Page H5095**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:21 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H5104**